

OSCAR LEESER
MAYOR

TOMMY GONZALEZ
CITY MANAGER



CITY COUNCIL
PETER SVARZBEIN, DISTRICT 1
JIM TOLBERT, DISTRICT 2
EMMA ACOSTA, DISTRICT 3
CARL L. ROBINSON, DISTRICT 4
MICHEL R. NOE, DISTRICT 5
CLAUDIA ORDAZ, DISTRICT 6
LILY LIMÓN, DISTRICT 7
CORTNEY CARLISLE NILAND, DISTRICT 8

November 21, 2016

NEWS RELEASE

Holiday Cooking Safety

El Paso Fire Department reminds the public to cook holiday meals safely

El Paso, Texas – Although cooking a turkey, ham or roast during the holiday season has become a tradition, safety also needs to be a tradition. The El Paso Fire Department would like to remind the public to NEVER leave a meal cooking in the oven unattended. Putting a meal in the oven and going back to bed, going shopping or attending the parade are extremely dangerous practices. Always leave someone attending the oven at all times.

Additionally, those who prefer deep-frying their turkey should follow consider these tips:

1. Keep outdoor fryers at least 10 feet away from all structures while cooking.
2. Never fry on a wooden deck, in a garage or under any roof or awning.
3. Make sure the turkey is completely thawed before cooking.
4. Never use a fryer in the rain, wind or snow.
5. Place the fryer on a level surface.
6. Place the propane tank at least 2 feet away from the fryer.
7. Properly measure the oil to prevent an overflow when lowering the turkey.
8. Choose a turkey under 12 pounds for frying.
9. Never leave fryers unattended while cooking.
10. Don't overheat the cooking oil.
11. Turn off the burner while placing the turkey into the heated oil.
12. Wear gloves and eye protection during the submersion process.
13. Keep a fire extinguisher nearby for safety.
14. Keep children and pets away from the fryer while cooking.

Remember, unsafe cooking practices can lead to devastating burns, other injuries and the destruction of property. The El Paso Fire Department also urges those who prefer fried turkey to seek out professional establishments, such as grocery stores, specialty food retailers and restaurants, for the preparation of the dish. Additionally, consider a new type of "oil-less" turkey fryer.

A video demonstration of these tips is available at EPFD's YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vwPTufB_zwQ.

Media Contact: Carlos A. Briano
Public Information Officer
Cell # (915) 820-9712